

## Conquest of the West 11-Sentence Paragraph

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**PROMPT:** Using information from the document, ideas from the above questions, and your own knowledge, write an 11 sentence paragraph explaining three impacts of westward expansion. You may want to use the words in the vocabulary box.

Decrease Indian  
Reservations

Transcontinental Railroad

Extermination of Buffalo

Unlike other significant time periods in the United States history, the westward expansion was an era of tailing momentous impacts on America that has changed ~~for~~ nation forever. One of the infamous impacts that the Westward Expansion had on America involved the extermination of buffalo. As hundreds of thousands of Americans began to migrate west, they hunted excessive amounts of buffalo for fun and to the displeasure of Native Americans abundant in that area. In fact, over 40,000 buffalo hides were retrieved by the year 1878 in the Great Plains, providing for large decrease in the Native American's primary resource for food, clothing, shelter, and tools (Doc. 1). One of the most substantial occurrences that derived from the Westward Expansion also involved the construction and usage of the transcontinental railroad in the West and Great Plains. The completion of the railroad provided ~~as~~ a turning point and innovation in ~~for~~ nation's history as people located in the mid-east were capable of quickly transporting themselves west to stake their claim during the gold rush or to make a living in the Great Plains. The railroad also acted as a way to interrupt the Native American societies as the railroads ran through some of their reservations and allowed people to hunt buffalo. In addition, one of the final ways the westward expansion made an impact was the series of conflicts with Native American tribes such as the Sioux and the Cheyenne ensuing the completion of the transcontinental railroad. As the population in the west began to increase, the demand for land was present, allowing white men to start forcing Native Americans off their land and onto smaller reservations in effect. The Natives had no other choice but to retaliate, fighting back against people like General Custer in conflicts involving The Battle of Little Big Horn, Wounded Knee, and commander Chivington in the Sand Creek Massacre. Although the effects of events such as white-American battles, the Transcontinental Railroad, Extermination of Buffalo may not be seen clearly today, the westward expansion was a period that changed the way ~~for~~ society thought and acted forever.